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			審査請求	未請求	青求項の数 2	2 (全8頁)

**到発明の名称** チタンもしくはチタン基合金製生体修復部材及びその表面処理法

②特 願 平1-282570 .

20出 願 平1(1989)10月30日

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#### 明細音

#### 1. 発明の名称

チタンもしくはチタン基合金製生体修復部 材及びその表面処理法

#### 2. 特許請求の範囲

1. チタンもしくはチタン基合金製生体修復部材の少なくとも埋入部表面を設処理によって平均孔径1~10μm、平均深さ0.5~5μmの不定形の改細な凹みを設けて成るチタンもしくはチタン基合金製生体修復部材。

2. 上記較処理が前処理として1~6 平 t % 濃度のフッ化水素酸 (HF) 水溶液に上記埋入部表面を30秒~3分間浸液処理をすること、続いて後処理として1~6 平 t % 濃度の過酸化水素 (H · O · ) 被との混合水溶液に10~60秒汲透処理をすることよりなる請求項1記載のチタンもしくはチタン基合金製生体修復部材の表面処理法。

# 3. 発明の詳細な説明

# (産業上の利用分野)

本発明は歯科、外科等の医療分野に於て用いる チタンもしくはチタン基合金製生体修復部材、と りわけインプラント部材、例えば人工関節、骨袋 合部材、人工骨、人工歯根、義由等の改良に関す る。

#### (従来の技術)

行なうことがなされてきた。しかし、前者の 合 の 欠点としては金属質加工具 (切削、 研磨用 等 からの 異種 金属が部 材 表面 に 転移 して 生体 粗 類 を 汚染することが挙げられ、 後者 の 場合 は に 加 工 発 も 器 む ・ このよう な 点に 煙 か が 投 性 で 加 工 乳 も 高 と な って 金属 親 修 復 部 材 表 の に 1 0 n m ~ 1 0 0 0 n m (0 . 0 1 μ m ~ 1 の 超 数 細 毛 孔 を 形 成 す る 加 工 技 術 は か 、 このよう な 超 微 細 毛 孔 を 形 成 す る 加 工 技 術 は め て 面 例 複 唯 で コ ス ト 高 と な り ・ ま た 細 胞 と な が の よ う 間 知 を な が 残 し て い る 。

#### (発明が解決しようとする課題)

本発明は凡そ上記問題点の除去に鑑みなされたもので、チタンもしくはチタン協合金製生体修復部材の表面と骨組織との微少投資効果を確立するためには細胞の初期部材の表面接着が優れた粗面構造を作成する必要がある。しかもその粗面構造の作成方法は簡易で生産性が良く安価である上に面租度をコントロールし続い生体修復部材並びに

の汚染を十分に洗浄化し得ると共に後記の限定条 件のものを用いることによって平均孔径1~10 μπ、平均深さ0.5~5μπの不定形の機能な 凹みを多設することができる。またHF譲度、浸 **浪時間の調整により上記孔径、深さを可変して面** 租皮をコントロールすることが可能である。 HF の譲度を1~6wt%の範囲のものとするのは1 %未満の場合は孔径が1 μmに遠せず、6 %を超 えると逆に大きくなって10μmを超えてしまう からである。而して平均孔径が1μm未認の場合 は細胞の接着力が低くなり、10μmを超えると 組織細胞(その大きさは10~100μmと云わ れている)より大きくなる場合があり、この場合 は細胞が凹みの谷底に付着して山部を跡がないの で接着強度が十分に得られないと云う理由による。 平均深さが0.5~5μmの範囲である理由は0. 5 μ m を下翅ろ時は骨と部材間における投貨効果 が減少し、5μmを上頭る場合は投鈴力はあがる ものの凹みの稜線部にシャープエッジや尖殻とげ が出来易く、組織刺戟性(発展的には発露のトリ

その表面処理法をこゝに提供せんとするものであ み。

#### (課題を解決するための手段)

本発明はチタンもしくはチタン基合金製生体修 世部材の少なくとも埋入部最面を散処理によって 平均孔径1~10μm、平均深さ0.5~5μm の不定形の微細な凹みを設けて成るチタンもしく はチタン基合金製生体修復部材に関する。本発明 はまた、上記散処理が前処理として1~6w t % 濃度のフッ化水素酸(HF)水溶液に上記埋入的 で後処理として1~6w t %濃度のフッ化水素酸 で後処理として1~6w t %濃度の辺酸化水素(H. の、液をの混合水溶液に10~60砂液液処理 をすることよりなるチタンもしくはチタン基合金 製生体修復部材の表面処理法に関する。

#### (作用)

前処理としてのフッ化水海酸(HF)水溶液は チタンもしくはチタン基合金製生体修復部材の表 面酸化膜はもとより加工工程中に受けた異種金属

ガーとなる)が出てくるからである。 浸渍時間を30秒~3分としたのは、30秒未満の場合は凹みの深さが没すぎて処理前の汚染層を十分に除去しきれない傾向があり、3分を超えると凹みの深さが深くなりすぎて前記したようにシャーブエッジや尖鏡とげが多くなるためである。

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とげが現われてくるからである。

以下に本発明の実施例を比較例及び実験例とも ども表1に示す。

(以下余句)

				(武 1)				
以科局及び属性	表面处理	内容		表面相 2 10,25mm Raax(µm)	I 加定知	Ω Ω(0.80m   Rmax(μ m)	位子頭数銀硬改結果 (なお数値は凹みの孔径	目视机原结果
比較例1	表面处理前の以降		0.3	0.6	0.6	2.1	朝田面に打政、クレバス、あるい	
比較何2	4XHF 1分間 後処理なし		1.3	2,9	2.4	3,5	は隠蔽された穴がある。   2μ m ~ 3μ mのピットが多く見られ   るが、シャープエッジや尖鋭とげ   がある。	(多少打弦有り 組灰色 (やや貨ばみ)
英施例 1 実施例 2	4×HF 3069(U). 4×HF+8×H, 0,			Z.6	2.5	3.2	7μe~5μeのピットが多く見られ シャープエッジが若干あるが尖鋭 とげはない。	. 銀白色
	4%HF 1分間、4%HF+8%H <sub>1</sub> O <sub>2</sub>		1.3	2.6	2.4	3.3	2μ=~5μ=のピットが多く見られ	製白色
実施研3	430F 233W, 4%HF+6311,0,		1.8	3,2	2.9	4.8	シャーブエッジや尖鏡とげはない 2μ=~10μ=のピットが多く見 られ大きなピットの中に1-3μ=の 小さなピットが見られる。シャー プエッジ、尖鏡とげはない	銀白色
支統例4	2KHF 1分間、4%HF+8KH,0,		1.4	3.4	2.4	3.4	1μα~3μαのピットが多く見られ	級百色
	88HF 145HW. 4%HF+88H.O.	後处理 15秒間	2	4.2	3		シャープエッジが若干みられる。 7με~10μεのピットが多く比 られ、大きなピットの中に2~5με の小さなピットが見られる。シャ ープエッジ、尖鏡とげは若干みら	拟白色
	48HF 137RD, 88H,0,	後処理 1分間		1.8	2	3.3	<u>れる。</u> 0.5μm~(μmのピットが多く見ら れるが、シャーブエッジがある。 尖帆とげもある。	短灰色 (やや質ばみ)
及時间2	4%HF 1分間、8%H,0。	数划到 15秒间	1.1	1.9	2.6	3,6	失数とりもある。 0.5μa~4μaのピットが多く見ら れるが、シャープエッジがある。 実数とげもある。	似灰色 (やや食ばみ)

<sup>(</sup>註)
1. 測定距離とは試料の幅方向についての測定に関与した距離を示す。
2. R I とは各測定距離内の凹みの山部を5ケ、谷部を5ケ、合せて10ケの凹みのほどの平均値を示す。
3. R m a I とは各測定距離内の凹みの関さの最大値を示す。
4. 比較別1, 2 は使み回りと解析の試料を示す。
5. 突線例1, 2 は世紀型として出。0, 単独使用の例を示す。
6. 凹みの孔径は影付の電子顕微粒写真より割り出したものである。

・ 表1の結果を添付図面代用の電子顕微鏡写真 (以下単に写真と略す)を参照しながら表1の順 について説明する:

- (1) 質面仕上げのま > の無処理の比較例1の ものは写真1の如くショット打度、クレバス (こ の他写真外であるが隠蔽穴) があり、結合組織の 接着を考慮した際不適である。
- (2) 比較例1のものをHF処理をしたものは 写真2の如く敵域による多くのピットが発現する が、孔数がシャープエッジ(白い複線部)をなし ており組織への刺戟性を考慮する時、望ましくない。
- (3) 実施例1の如く比較例2のHF処理時間を1/2とし、これに続いてHF+H。〇。の混合被に浸渍したものは写真3のようにシャープエッジが大部分とれて(白い稜線部がポヤけてきている) 尖鋭とげはない。
- (4) 実施例2の如く比較例2のHF処理と同 一条件とし続いて上記混合被処理を行なったもの は写真4の如くシャーブエッジ、尖鋭とげは不在

なように実験例1とほど同様な所見となっている。

(10) 実施例 1 ~ 5 に於て、HPの濃度もしくは没渡時間を変えることによってピットの孔径(面租度) を変えることが出来る。

以上を更にまとめると;

- a) HF処理によって平滑な表面が設性されて多数のピットが形成され、続いてHFとH。O。との混合液による後処理によって上記ピットの稜積が平滑にされるも、HFの濃度が低過ぎてもくシャープエッジ、尖鋭とげが復元する傾向にある。
- b) 後処理液としてHPを含まずH。〇、単独の 場合は何故かシャープエッジ、尖鏡とげの消去に 役立たない。
- c) 前処理のHFの濃度、処理時間の調整により、ピットの孔径を変えられる。
- d) 本発明法の後処理被を用いた場合、銀灰色の素地色は全て銀白色に輝いて見ばえが良好である。

(発明の効果)

本発明は叙述より理解されたように、チタンも

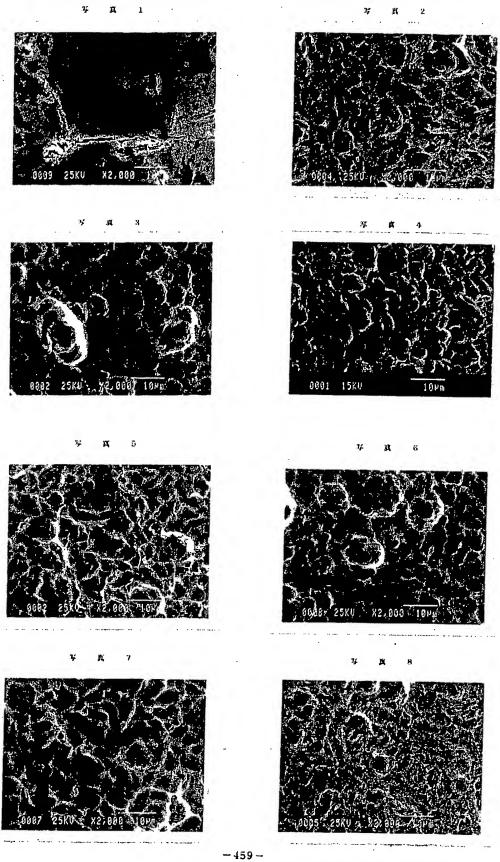
でベストモードを示している。

- (5) HF処理を実施例2の2倍時間かけて実施例2と周一の混合被処理を行なった実施例3のものは写真5の如くピット孔径が約2倍に増大すると共に大きなピットの中に小さな(1~3μm)のピットが認められシャープエッジ、尖鋭とげが殆どない。
- (6) HFの濃度を前実筋例の1/2とし同じ混合被処理をした実施例4のものは写真6に示す如く孔径の変化は小さい。シャープエッジ、尖鋭とげは若干あるがこの程度では心配に値しない。
- (7) HFの濃度を実施例1~3の2倍にし混合被処理を同じにした実施例5のものは写真7の如く概ね実施例4のものと同じ所見である。
- (8) 後処理被としてH。O。水溶液単独を用い 後処理時間を1分とした実験例1のものは写真8 の如く孔径が減少しこれと共に多くのシャーブエ ッジ、尖鋭とげの発現がみられる。
- (9)実験例1の後処理液を用い後処理時間を 15秒とした実験例2のものは写真9より明らか

#### 4. 図面の簡単な説明

添付図面代用写真1~9は表1の試料の順に対応する生体修復部材の表面性状を示す電子顕微鏡写真を示す。

出取人 川 原 春 幸 出願人 東邦チタニウム株式会社 代理人 弁理士86235) 松 野 英 彦



#### 特問平3-146679(6)

手 統 補 正 密 (方式) 7 5 平成2年4月2-0日

特許庁長官 吉田 文敬 殿

画区

1. 事件の表示

平成1年特許願第282570号

- 発明の名称
   チタンもしくはチタン基合金製生体修復部材及びその表面処理法
- 3. 補正をする者 事件との関係 特許出願人 住所 大阪府守口市東光町1丁目28 氏名 川 原 春 幸

住所 東京都遊区港南2丁目13番31号

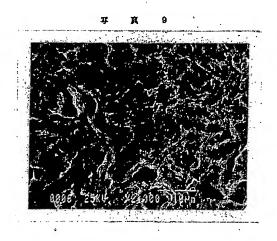
名称 東邦チタニウム株式会社

代表者 八 島 舜 一



4. 代理人 〒550

住所 大阪市西区京町堀1-12-14(天真ビル) 兵名 弁理士(6235) 松 野 英 原型型弾 で発売 森 06-443-4990-755



5. 補正命令の日付平成2年2月27日(発送日)

6. 補正の対象

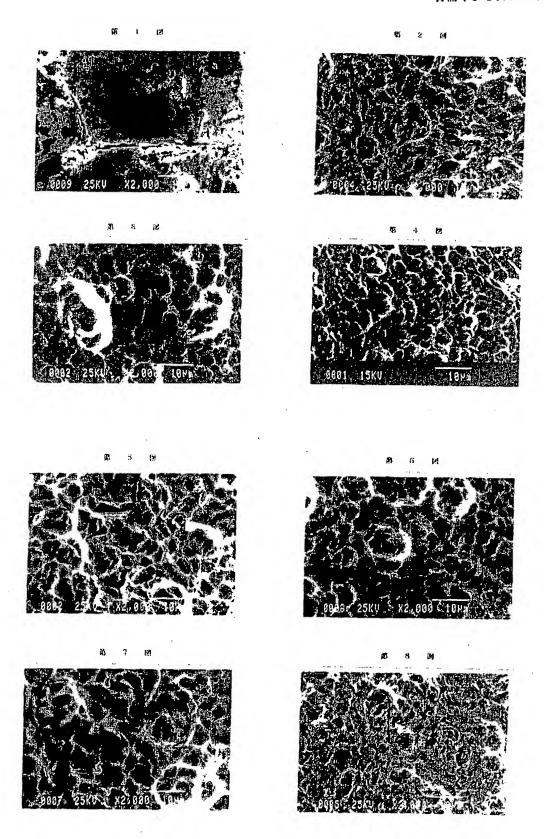
明細書の「図面の簡単な説明」の関及び「図面」。

- 7. 補正の内容
- (1)「図面の簡単な説明」を別紙の通り補正する。
- (2) 別紙の通り図面の連続番号を「第1図~第 9図」と補正する。
- 8.添付書類の目録
- (1) 図面の簡単な説明 (補正) 1 通
- (2) 図面「第1図~第9図」(補正) 1通

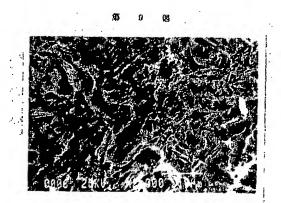
-以上-

#### 4. 図面の簡単な説明 (補正)

第1回は焼面仕上げのままの無処理の比較例1の表面の結晶の構造を示す電子顕微統写真(×2000)、第2回は比較例2の表面の結晶の構造を示す電子顕微鏡写真(×2000)、第3回は実施例1の表面の結晶の構造を示す電子顕微鏡写真(×2000)、第4回は実施例3の表面の結晶の構造を示す電子顕微鏡写真(×2000)、第6回は実施例3の表面の結晶の構造を示す電子顕微鏡写真(×2000)、第8回は実施例1の表面の結晶の構造を示す電子顕微鏡写真(×2000)、第9回は実験例2の表面の結晶の構造を示す電子顕微鏡写真(×2000)である。



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[Translator's Note. An amendment to this document was filed on 5 July 1990. This amendment has two effects. First, it replaces the entire as-filed section entitled, "4. Brief Description of the Drawings", with amended text. Second, it replaces the entire as-filed set of photographs (Figures 1 to 9) with another set of photographs. I have seamlessly incorporated the amendments into the following translation.]

# SPECIFICATION

# 1. Title of the Invention

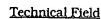
Titanium or titanium alloy biorepair member and method for treating the surface thereof

#### 2. Claims

- 1. Titanium or titanium alloy biorepair member wherein at least the surface of the embedded portion of the titanium or titanium alloy biorepair member is provided by means of acid treatment with irregularly shaped microscopic depressions having an average diameter of 1 to 10  $\mu$ m and an average depth of 0.5 to 5  $\mu$ m.
- 2. Method for treating the surface of the titanium or titanium alloy biorepair member according to Claim 1, wherein the aforesaid acid treatment comprises a pretreatment in which the surface of the aforesaid embedding portion is dipped in 1 to 6 weight% aqueous hydrofluoric acid (HF) solution for 30 seconds to 3 minutes followed by a posttreatment comprising dipping for 10 to 60 seconds in an aqueous mixed solution of 1 to 6 weight% aqueous hydrofluoric

acid solution and 1 to 10 weight% hydrogen peroxide (H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) solution.

# 3. Detailed Description of the Invention



This invention relates to the titanium and titanium alloy biorepair members used in medicine for, e.g., dental surgery and surgery. More particularly, this invention relates to improvements in implant members, for example, artificial joints, bone fixation devices, artificial bone, artificial dental roots, false teeth, and so forth.

#### Prior Art

The initial adhesion across the interface between living tissue and the surface of the aforesaid biorepair members when embedded in the tissue varies as a function of the properties of the surface of the member. When, for example, the surface is a mirror surface lacking elevations and depressions, the bonding strength to bone is weak and the member will not be adequately supported by the tissue. When on the other hand the surface is a rough surface presenting elevations and depressions, the bone will infiltrate into and grow in the microvalleys, which generates a microanchoring effect that results in strong support of the member within the bone. Furthermore, the

necessary initial adhesive strength develops relatively rapidly in this case. Against this background, technology for roughening the surface of the repair member has already entered into use. The most general roughening methods have been mechanical roughening of the bare surface and roughening by plasma metal spray. One drawback to the mechanical processes is biotissue contamination by the foreign metal that transfers to the member surface from the metal processing tools (cutting, polishing, etc.). The plasma metal spray processes are compromised by their operational complexity and high cost. In an attempt to deal with these issues, Japanese Patent Application Laid Open [Kokai or Unexamined] Number Sho 55-120864 [120,864/1980] has proposed the formation of ultrafine, 10 nm to 1,000 nm (0.01  $\mu m$  to 1  $\mu m$ ) pores in the surface of metal repair members. However, the processing technology for forming these ultrafine pores is very costly. tedious, and complex. Moreover, the bonding force with cells is still not always adequate.

# Problems to Be Solved by the Invention

This invention was developed in order to solve the problems described above. In order to establish a microanchoring effect between bone tissue and the surface of a Ti or Ti alloy biorepair member, a roughened structure must be formed that provides an excellent initial adhesion between cells and the surface of the member. Another object of the present invention is a biorepair member in which such a roughened structure can be fabricated by a

simple. highly productive, and inexpensive procedure and whose surface roughness can be easily adjusted. An additional object of the present invention is a method for treating the surface of the subject biorepair member.

#### Means Solving the Problems

The present invention relates to a titanium or titanium alloy biorepair member wherein at least the surface of the embedded portion of the titanium or titanium alloy biorepair member is provided by means of acid treatment with irregularly shaped microscopic depressions having an average diameter of 1 to 10 μm and an average depth of 0.5 to 5 μm. The invention additionally relates to a method for treating the surface of a titanium or titanium alloy biorepair member, wherein the aforesaid acid treatment comprises a pretreatment in which the surface of the aforesaid embedding portion is dipped in 1 to 6 weight% aqueous hydrofluoric acid (HF) solution for 30 seconds to 3 minutes followed by a posttreatment comprising dipping for 10 to 60 seconds in an aqueous mixed solution of 1 to 6 weight% aqueous hydrofluoric acid solution and 1 to 10 weight% hydrogen peroxide (H2O2) solution.

#### **Function**

The use of an aqueous hydrofluoric acid solution as the pretreatment functions to thoroughly remove the oxide film present on the surface of Ti and Ti alloy biorepair members and to remove the foreign metal contaminants picked

up during processing operations. In addition, the use of the specific conditions described 2 above functions to provide a large number of irregularly shaped microscopic depressions with h an average diameter of 1 to 10 µm and an average depth of 0.5 to 5 µm. Moreover, the depression size and depth can be changed, and hence the surface roughness can be adjusted, by varying the HF concentration and dipping time. The bases for specifying a range of 1 to 6 10 below will show, the use of an aqueous solution weight% for the HF concentration are as follows: pore sizes ≥ 1 µm cannot be reached at below 1%, while large pore sizes in excess of 10 µm are produced when 6% is exceeded. The adhesive 15 specifying a hydrogen peroxide concentration of strength to cells is low when the average pore size is below 1  $\mu m$ . At pore sizes larger than 10  $_{\odot}$  weight% the effect is substantially identical to μm, the pore can be larger than the tissue cells, which are from 10 to 100 µm in size. As a result, the cells will stick at the bottom of the depressions and cannot straddle the ridges 10 has a pronounced tendency to create new sharp between depressions, leading to an inadequate adhesive strength. The bases for specifying an average depth in the range from 0.5 to 5 µm are as follows: the anchoring effect between the yes seconds, while times above 60 seconds cause the bone and biorepair member is low at an average depth below 0.5 µm; an average depth in excess . of 5 µm, although providing a high anchoring effect, tends to result in the appearance of sharp 3 spines and sharp edges at the ridge lines between depressions, which can cause tissue 30 irritation (possibly a trigger for cancer). The bases for specifying a dipping time of 30 seconds  $3\nu$ to 3 minutes are as follow: the depressions are too shallow at below 30 seconds, which strongly 34 impairs satisfactory removal of the contaminating layer present prior to treatment;

the depressions become too deep at times in excess of 3 minutes, which leads to the formation of large numbers of sharp edges and sharp spines as described above.

Dipping in a mixed aqueous solution of HF and H2O2 in the posttreatment functions to smooth the sharp edges and sharp spines that appear at the microscopic depressions produced during the pretreatment. As the examples given of only H2O2 instead of the mixed aqueous solution is ineffective for smoothing these sharp edges and sharp spines. The bases for 1 to 10 weight% are as follows: at below 1 that of HF alone, i.e., inadequate removal of the sharp edges and spines; exceeding 10 weight% functions to increase the pore diameter and thus edges and spines. The bases for specifying a dipping time of 10 to 60 seconds are as follows: inadequate effects are obtained at below 10 appearance of sharp edges and spines.

# **Examples**

Working examples of the present invention and comparative examples are reported in Table 1 below.

						<u> </u>			
	results of visual		apparent mirror finish (some brutsing)	silver gray (slightly	silver gray	silver gray	silver gray	silver gray	
results of analysis of the	electron micrograph (the numerical values refer to the pore diameter of the	depression (inside crosswise diameter))	bruising, crevices, and occluded pores appeared on the polished surface	large numbers of 2 µm ~ 3 µm pits are observed, sharp edges and sharp spines occur	large numbers of 2 µm ~ 5 µm pits are observed, some sharp edges occur, sharp spines are absent	large numbers of 2 µm ~ 5 µm pits are observed, sharp edges and sharp spines are absent	large numbers of 2 µm ~ 10 µm pits are observed, 1 ~ 3 µm small pits are seen in the large pits, sharp edges and sharp sin thes are absent	large numbers of 1 µm ~ 3 µm pits are observed, some sharp edges are observed	
for	rement nce =	measurement distance = 0.80 mm	Rmax (um)	2.1	3.5	3.2	3.3	8.4	3.4
measurement results for surface roughness	measu dista 0.80	22 (EII)	9.0	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.9	2.4	
asuremer surface r	measurement distance = 0.25 mm	measurement distance = 0.25 mm	Rmax (µm)	0.6	2.9	2.6	2.6	3.2	3.4
me			Rz (mm)	0.3	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.8	1.4
	nature of surface treatment		specimen prior to surface treatment	4% HF, 1 minute no posttreatment	4% HF, 30 seconds posttreatment: 15 seconds, 4% HF + 8% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	4% HF, 1 minute posttreatment: 15 seconds, 4% HF + 8% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	4% HF, 2 minutes posttreatment: 15 seconds, 4% HF + 8% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	2% HF, 1 minute posttreatment: 15 seconds, 4% HF + 8% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	
sample no. and classification		Comparative Example 1	Comparative Example 2	Example 1	Example 2	Example 3	Example 4		

(Table 1 is continued on the next page)

				(_)		
		results of visual	uonadsm	silver gray	silver gray (slightly	yellowed) silver gray (slightly yellowed)
	results of analysis of the	electron micrograph (the numerical values refer to	depression (inside crosswise diameter))	large numbers of 2 $\mu$ m ~ 10 $\mu$ m pits are observed, 2 ~ 5 $\mu$ m small pits are seen in the large pits, some sharp edges and	large numbers of 0.5 μm ~ 4 μm pits are observed, sharp edges and also sharp	large numbers of 0.5 µm ~ 4 µm pits are observed, sharp edges and also sharp spines occur
	measurement results for surface roughness	measurement distance = 0.80 mm	Rmax	4.5	3.3	3.6
		measu dista 0.80	22 (mm)	က	7	2.6
		measurement distance = 0.25 mm	Rmax (µm)	4.2	1.8	1.9
	Ě	measu dista 0.25	(mm)	8	1	1.1
		nature of surface treatment		8% [stc] HF, 1 minute posttreatment: 15 seconds, 4% HF + 8% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	4% HF, 1 minute posttreatment: 1 minute, 8% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	4% HF, 1 minute posttreatment: 15 seconds, 8% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>
	o la marco	sample no. and classification		Example 5	Experimental Example 1	Experimental Example 2

Notes to the table.

The measurement distance refers to the distance over which the measurement is taken along the length $^1$  of the sample.

Rz refers to the mean depression depth for 5 ridges and 5 valleys for a total of 10 depressions within the measurement distance.

Rmax refers to the maximum depression depth over the measurement distance.

Comparative Examples 1 and 2 refer to prior-art specimens.

Experimental Examples 1 and 2 cover the use of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> by itself in the posttreatment.

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The pore sizes of the depressions were determined using the appended electron micrographs.

Translator's Note. Due to poor legibility, I cannot clearly determine if the measurement distance runs along the length or along the width of the sample.

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The results in Table 1 will now be analyzed in the same order as in Table 1 with reference to the electron micrographs (abbreviated below simply as photographs) appended herewith.

- 1 was an untreated specimen that presented with a mirror finish. As shown in Photograph 1,2 it suffered from shot bruising and crevices (also from occluded pores although this is outside the area of the photograph) and thus was unacceptable in terms of adhesion to connective tissue.
- (2) As shown in Photograph 2, the specimen afforded by HF treatment of the specimen of Comparative Example 1 presented a large number of pits as a result of the acid corrosion; however, the pore edges took the form of sharp edges (white ridge lines). This made this specimen unacceptable in terms of tissue irritation.
- (3) In Example 1, the specimen was treated using one-half the HF treatment time of Comparative Example 2 and was then immersed in HF + H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> mixed solution. As shown in Photograph 3, in the resulting specimen the sharp edges have been largely eliminated (the white ridge lines have faded) and sharp spines are not present.

- (4) In Example 2, the specimen was treated with HF using the same conditions as in Comparative Example 2 and was then treated with the mixed solution as in Example 1. As shown in Photograph 4, neither sharp edges nor sharp spines are present, and this example thus represents the best mode.
- (5) In Example 3, the specimen was treated with HF for twice as long as in Example 2 and then treated with the mixed solution using the same conditions as in Example 2. As shown in Photograph 5, the pit diameters were approximately twice as large and small (1 ~ 3 μm) pits were observed in the large pits. Sharp edges and sharp spines were almost entirely absent.<sup>3</sup>
- obtained using one-half the HF concentration of Example 3 and the same mixed solution treatment as in Example 3. As shown in Photograph 6, there is little variation in pore size. Some sharp edges and sharp spines are present, but not to a problematic degree.
- (7) The specimen in Example 5 was obtained using twice the HF concentration as in Examples 1 to 3, but the same mixed solution treatment.

Translator's Note. The pre-amendment electron micrographs were labelled Photographs 1-9, while the post-amendment micrographs are labelled Figures 1-9. The text, however, has not been amended to reflect this change.

<sup>3</sup> Translator's Note. There is a slight conflict here in that the results for Example 3 in Table 1 state that the sharp edges and spines are absent, not "almost entirely absent". This conflict occurs in the Japanese source document itself and is not an artifact of the translation process.

As shown in Photograph 7, almost the same results were obtained as in Example 4.

- (8) The specimen in Experimental Example

  1 was prepared using an aqueous solution of H2O2 by itself as the posttreatment solution and using a posttreatment time of 1 minute. As demonstrated in Photograph 8, the resulting specimen had a diminished pore size and presented a large number of sharp edges and sharp spines.
- (9) The specimen in Experimental Example 2 used the same posttreatment solution as in Experimental Example 1 while using a posttreatment time of 15 seconds. As shown in Photograph 9, the resulting specimen was substantially the same as in Experimental Example 1.
- (10) The pore size (surface roughness) of the pits could be varied in Examples 1 to 5 by varying the HF concentration and dipping time.

The preceding observations can be summarized as follows:

- a) The HF treatment causes acid corrosion of the smooth surface with the formation of a largenumber of pits. The ensuing posttreatment with a mixed HF + H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> solution smooths the pit edges, although a too low HF concentration tends to leave the sharp edges and sharp spines.
- A posttreatment solution lacking HF and containing only H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> is ineffective for eliminating the sharp edges and

- sharp spines, although the reason for this remains unknown.
- c) The pore size of the pits can be varied by varying the HF concentration and treatment time in the pretreatment.
- d) When the posttreatment solution of the method according to the present invention is used, the silver gray color of the substrate remains completely unchanged, which provides an excellent appearance.

#### Effects of the Invention

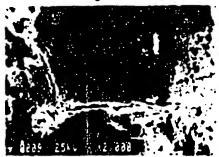
As the preceding description has shown, the present invention can provide an excellent appearance and an excellent adhesive strength between connective tissue and the surface of the biorepair member. The present invention achieves these results by subjecting the embedding surface of a Ti or Ti alloy biorepair member to an acid treatment in order to provide thereon a large number of irregularly shaped microscopic depressions with an average diameter of  $1 \sim 10 \,\mu m$  and an average depth of 0.5 to  $5 \mu m$ . This acid treatment consists simply of an acid corrosion pretreatment using ordinary hydrofluoric acid and an ensuing posttreatment using ordinary hydrofluoric acid and hydrogen peroxide. This method is simple and highly productive and permits the surface roughness to be adjusted by varying the HF concentration and treatment time during the pretreatment step.

# 4. Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1 contains an electron micrograph (2,000x) of the structure of the crystals on the surface in Comparative Example 1 (no treatment, mirror surface as presented). Figure 2 contains an electron micrograph (2,000x) of the structure of the crystals on the surface in Comparative Example 2. Figure 3 contains an electron micrograph (2,000x) of the structure of the crystals on the surface in Example 1. Figure 4 contains an electron micrograph (2,000x) of the structure of the crystals on the surface in Example 2. Figure 5 contains an electron micrograph (2,000x) of the structure of the crystals on the surface in Example 3. Figure 6 contains an electron micrograph (2,000x) of the structure of the crystals on the surface in Example 4. Figure 7 contains an electron micrograph (2,000x) of the structure of the crystals on the surface in Example 5. Figure 8 contains an electron micrograph (2,000x) of the structure of the crystals on the surface in Experimental Example 1. Figure 9 contains an electron micrograph of the structure of the crystals on the surface in Experimental Example 2.



Figure 1.



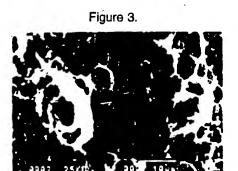


Figure 2.

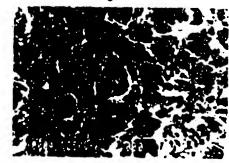


Figure 4.

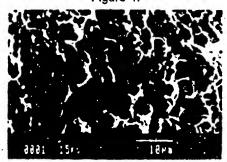


Figure 5.

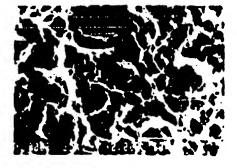


Figure 7.

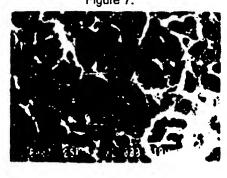


Figure 6.

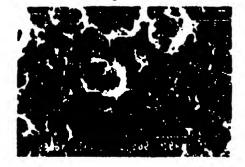


Figure 8.

